



**TESTIMONY OF
PETER M. GIOIA
VICE PRESIDENT & ECONOMIST
CONNECTICUT BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION
SUBMITTED TO THE
APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE
MARCH 18, 2016
LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING
STATE CAPITOL
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT**

Good day. My name is Peter M. Gioia. I am the vice president and economist for the Connecticut Business and Industry Association (CBIA). CBIA represents thousands of firms, which employ hundreds of thousands of women and men in Connecticut. Our membership includes firms of all sizes and types, over 90% are small businesses with fewer than 50 people.

CBIA wishes to comment upon H.B. No. 5043 AN ACT MAKING DEFICIANCY APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2016 .

CBIA voices its concern over repeated need for deficiency appropriations, especially in light of current and possibly growing state deficits. Almost \$7 million is requested for personal services overruns. Another \$35 million is for debt service overrun. Fringe benefit overruns total \$33.5 million. The state needs to better manage these accounts to avoid this call for deficiencies especially in areas which are not entitlement programs.

Thank you for the opportunity to present this testimony.